the Ladder

50c

February, 1959

purpose of the

Daughters of BILITIS

A WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTING THE INTEGRATION OF THE HOMOSEXUAL INTO SOCIETY BY:

1. Education of the variant, with particular emphasis on the psychological, physiological and sociological aspects, to enable her to understand herself and make her adjustment to society in all its social, civic and economic implications--this to be accomplished by establishing and maintaining as complete a library as possible of both fiction and non-fiction literature on the sex deviant theme; by sponsoring public discussions on pertinent subjects to be conducted by leading members of the legal, psychiatric, religious and other professions; by advocating a mode of behavior and dress acceptable to society.

2. Education of the public at large through acceptance first of the individual, leading to an eventual breakdown of erroneous taboos and prejudices; through public discussion meetings aforementioned; through dissemination of educational literature on the homosexual theme.

3. Participation in research projects by duly authorized and responsible psychologists, sociologists and other such experts directed towards further knowledge of the homosexual.

4. Investigation of the penal code as it pertains to the homosexual, proposal of changes to provide an equitable handling of cases involving this minority group, and promotion of these changes through due process of law in the state legislatures.

the Ladder

FEBRUARY 1959
Volume 3, Number 5

Published monthly by the Daughters of Bilitis, Inc., a non-profit corporation, 165 O'Farrell Street, Room 405, San Francisco 2, California. Telephone YUkon 2-9290.

THE LADDER STAFF: Phyllis Lyon, editor; Patti Brown and Elva Ann Schmolke, editorial assistants; Jaye Bell and Barbara Johnson, production managers; Winnie Little, circulation manager; Fran Mac, advertising manager; Astrid Berger, European correspondent.

OFFICERS, DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS, INC.: Del Martin, president; Marty Elliott, vice president; Patti Brown, recording secretary; Billie Tallmij, corresponding secretary; Carol Wilson, treasurer; Sten Russell, publications director.

THE LADDER is regarded as a sounding board for various points of view on the homophile and related subjects and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the organization.

contents

Miss Travers, a story by Theresa Corella..... 4
Homosexuality and Creativity by Meredity Grey..... 7
Transvestism in Women by Gene Damon & Lee Stuart.....11
Mood Miscellanea - Poetry.....14
The Lesbian in Contemporary Literature by Lennox Strang.....16
Lesbiana.....19
New York DOB Sponsors Talk by Helen King.....20
Calendar of Events.....21
Readers Respond.....22

Cover by Kerry (with apologies to the Higgins Ink Co.)

Miss Travers

A story by THERESA CORELLA

Mrs. Patterson held the empty triangular garbage container off to her side. She approached her neighbor's fence when Mrs. Malone came from out of the neighboring house, letting the screen door slam behind her.

"Morning," Mrs. Patterson said, putting a smile in place of the adjective. "How you been?"

She scratched the palm of her hand on the tip of the picket and watched Mrs. Malone's approach. Her neighbor's legs were not vertical; they came abruptly from her house slippers and formed a kind of conic opening between them.

"D'ju know? Miss Travers died last night. Went in her sleep," said Mrs. Malone.

The woman's announcement was so abrupt that Mrs. Patterson had to take a moment to receive it.

"Ooooh noooooh!" She pursed her lips and cast the greasy garbage container toward the iris bed. She watched Mrs. Malone relentlessly, staring at her morbidly as though death had tossed the coin in Malone's house.

"Such a good girl she was too. So quiet and nice. Well, we all got to go sometime, I 'xpect," she said in a tone that was not convincing. "But how? What happened?"

"Mommy!" Patsy, Mrs. Patterson's five year old, tugged at her skirts. "Mommy, lookit! Lookit the butterfly!' It looks like a flower flying."

"Let me tell you right now, she was a peculiar one she was," said Mrs. Malone. "But I don't know..she was really very nice. One of the best tenants we ever had, come to think of it." She looked, for a moment, surprised.

"Miss Travers?" Patsy didn't understand too much of what

was being said but she had always felt close to Miss Travers; always felt, in a way, akin to her. She was the nicest lady she ever knew.

"There was that talk goin' round about she and that woman friend of hers," said Mrs. Malone. "Let me tell you right now, Miss Travers knew it too. I got an idear that was why she come here to live. After leavin' her friend and all seems like she didn't want to see nobody. You remember. About two years ago it was. Funny thing, though, was right after that she started goin' downhill; gettin' skinny and all that. Beats me how a young woman like that can up and die." The last word kept her silent for a moment; an infinitely large silence. "And let me tell you, after that her own father'd have nothin' to do with her. He kep' away all the time. Called him this mornin' though. Poor man. Just broke right down and cried. Says he'll do all the arrangements. Says he'll take a bunch of her water color paintin' she done out of her room so's I can rent it right away. Got some of her stuff in the g'rage too."

"Just run down, huh. Poor thing," Mrs. Patterson said. "Wonder how come?"

"Mommy..."

"Can't you see Mother's talking, Patsy? We're going to what's-her-name's after supper and I got to hurry." Mrs. Patterson turned to her neighbor. "As if I didn't have nothing else to do. Oh my, she said, putting a freckled hand to her heart, "Oh my, I got me heartburn again. You suppose it could be serious?"

"Sure not," said Mrs. Malone, "the children excite you, is all. It don't mean nothin' really. Look at Miss Travers, so nice and quiet and her goin' so sudden and all that." Mrs. Malone could not really believe it yet. "Just you don't pay it no mind," she said.

"Well, pro'bly. We all got to go sometime I guess. Live for today, I always say," Mrs. Patterson said and then, "such a nice girl she was too. And so young."

"Miss Travers?" Patsy tugged at her mother's skirt again. "Did she die?"

Mrs. Patterson was embarrassed and she didn't answer.

"I bet she'd be surprised if she knew she was dead today," Patsy said. The thought rode arrogantly on the young voice. If the bees ceased their humming the adults in that garden could not tell it. The air was rigid.

"Did she go quick?" Mrs. Patterson groped like one feeling in the dark with her hands.

"Went in her sleep, poor soul," not knowing why she pitied her. "Went into her room like always to give her fresh towels and all that. She's usually up by seven paintin' away."

"That's the best way to go, I guess, in your sleep."

"Mommy, lookit. Mommy?"

"Can't you see your Mother's talking, Patsy? Umyeah, yeah, it's right pretty. Now go play." She leaned over and fumbled with the leaves. "I'm real lucky with my petunias this year." A minute pause settled the statement and then; "Poor Miss Travers. Why I remember just yesterd'y when I was putting out my garbeege I seen her puttering about in your flowers. We just never know do we." She reached down under her dress at the shoulder and pulled the dangling strap up out of sight. "Beside of the father, didn't she have some...what-ya-ma-call-its...relations or something?"

"Not as I know of," said Mrs. Malone.

"We oughtta be a darn sight glad we got our own with us," Mrs. Patterson said. "We never got really friendly with Miss Travers, you know. If only I'd of told her that I didn't believe all that poppycock that went around about her. If..if only..before she..."

"Yeh, I know," said Mrs. Malone, nodding affirmatively at the unexpressed. "I was fixin' to, but..."

"Mommy." The child pulled at her mother's skirt. "Mommy! Lookit. Lookit the butterfly. See, it looks just like a flower flying!"

Mrs. Patterson hauled her breath in as if a weight larger than herself held it, and to Mrs. Malone, "Well, I got to do some shopping yet for supper," then, "What is it, Patsy?" What do you want Mother to see? I got to get supper yet. Your father'll be getting home early tonight."

"Nothing." Patsy's voice was small and turned in. "Nothing. It's gone now."

* * * * * *

Homosexuality and Creativity

Dr. Albert Ellis, psychologist and author of "Sex Without Guilt", presented a thoughtful, provocative and lucid paper summarizing his pioneer research in the relationship of sex deviation to creativity at a recent public lecture in New York City.

Of previous research, Dr. Ellis stated, "Scientific studies of homosexuals have almost always been (a) few; (b) based on small and unrepresentative samples; (c) done with poor research technique; and (d) been marred by the highly biased prejudices of the heterosexuals or homosexuals who conducted them."

216 PATIENTS TESTED

For purposes of his own study Dr. Ellis defined creativity as the ability "to find new solutions to a problem or new modes of artistic expression." On this basis he tested the creativity of 216 of his patients. One-hundred-fifty of these, being "exceptionally heterosexual", were considered a control group. The remainder, sixty-six homosexual patients, were classified into three sub groups: 19 of these despite a history of overt homosexuality might be considered more or less "bisexual"; 33 were homosexuals who retained their own sex role though engaging in sex ac-

tivities with members of their own sex; and 14 were "inverts" - that is, the male adopted a female or "fairy" role and the female played a masculine or "butch"-type role. All the individuals tested were psychotherapy patients not necessarily typical of the American population.

Dr. Ellis stated, "...homosexuals in our culture are almost invariably neurotic or psychotic ... therefore, no so-called normal group of homosexuals is to be found anywhere ... the only legitimate control group with which a homosexual group can be matched is one which consists of emotionally disturbed individuals."

HOMOSEXUALS LESS CREATIVE

The results of Dr. Ellis' research indicated that homosexual patients, in general, and inverts, in particular, are significantly less creative than highly heterosexual patients. The heterosexual group registered 26% highly creative, while bisexuals were rated 11%, homosexuals 9% and inverts 0%. In rating little or no creativity, the invert group registered 86%, while homosexuals were rated 52%, bisexuals 37%, and heterosexuals 43%. Dr. Ellis cited as one of the main reasons for the significantly greater creativeness of heterosexual over homosexual patients the relationship which exists between severe emotional disturbance and lack of creativity.

In accounting for the seeming paradox between his findings and the known preponderance of so many outstandingly creative homosexuals in such fields as the theater, music, designing and the dance, Dr. Ellis had several answers. Frequently, he said, outstanding creators who are homosexual turn out to be, "precisely because of their homosexuality and allied disturbances", notorious characters and are therefore more easily remembered than the outstanding heterosexual creators who may be leading a quiet home life in a non-sensational way.

HOMOSEXUALS IN 'PERFORMING' ARTS

"Secondly," Dr. Ellis pointed out, "a reasonably high proportion of homosexuals who are generally acknowledged as being creative are not actually so in the sense used in

the present discussion. ... It is my feeling that many homosexuals devote themselves to the performing arts, and eventually become proficient in these arts largely because they are interested in achieving fame and approval rather than because they are truly creative. Moreover, homosexuals in our society usually have considerable experience at acting in their real-life roles, since to be thoroughly honest about their homosexuality might well be disastrous at times."

Dr. Ellis also notes that the creative fields in which homosexuals seem to excel are almost exclusively the artistic and esthetic rather than the scientific, professional, managerial and other fields.

HOMOSEXUALS TOO SELF-INTERESTED

"Becaused fixed and inverted homosexuals are so intrinsically self-hating and so thoroughly absorbed in a futile attempt to raise their estimations of themselves by inducing others to accept and approve them, they spend inordinate amounts of time and energy, as do most seriously disturbed persons, in focussing on how they are doing at a problem instead of the problem itself. Consequently they are not too able to devise new solutions to artistic and scientific problems," Dr. Ellis posed as one explanation.

He also stated that fixed homosexuals and inverts are torn between the desire to rebel against society, on the one hand, and to conform to it and to their homosexual subculture on the other hand.

HOMOSEXUALS MOST CONFORMING, CONVENTIONAL

In tackling the question why homosexuals are not as creative as they could be potentially, Dr. Ellis observed that homosexuals spend more time conforming to or being highly imitative in their homosexual groups than they do in outward rebellion. He accused homosexuals of "being on the whole the most imitative, most conventional and most acceptance-demanding people in our ultra-conforming culture."

According to Dr. Ellis this basic conformity and lack of

ideological risk-taking often prevents the homosexual from looking for the truly novel and original aspects of life and art and from being half as creative in practice as they potentially and theoretically are.

HOMOSEXUAL DISTURBANCES

The true invert, and the least creative of the subjects tested, Dr. Ellis described as being "too disorganized and unobjective to focus adequately on devising inventive and original solutions to difficult artistic or scientific problems."

He went on to point out that fixed homosexuals and inverts in our country are usually so blamed, persecuted and partially excommunicated from normal social life that they acquire, in addition to their original fears, hostilities, and self-hatred, a secondary disturbance as result of society's disapproval. The two disturbances combine to keep them absorbed in their own problems diverting time and energy which might otherwise be devoted to creativity.

Dr. Ellis suggested homosexuality as the "easier and less responsible mode of life" and that individuals thus involved lack the drive for study, self-discipline, practice and hard work necessary for creative achievement.

"Many of them, therefore, who have considerable potential creativeness never actually realize their own potentialities, but end up by being desperately dilettantish, pseudo-intellectual and bored with themselves," he said.

Dr. Ellis did not digress into the specific techniques used to test creativity or the validity of such testing. An article which he is preparing for a professional journal will probably cover these technical but crucial details.

---- --Meredith Grey

THE LADDER'S methods of advertising are few. For the magazine to grow and to reach more people we need your help. Why not send a copy to a friend today - or send us your list of names, we'll send three sample copies to each.

Transvestism in Women

By Gene Damon and Lee Stuart

Throughout history women have masqueraded as men. Some did so for protection and assurance in a predominately masculine culture and others in order to follow a profession restricted to men.

Probably the largest group of women impersonating men have done so out of either sincerely wishing to be men or because of strong Lesbian tendencies. Only an infinitesimal handful of these women transvestites has come to recorded history's roles; indeed, just dressing like a man does not guarantee fame. Only famous or rather original women left traces for us to examine and speculate about.

Among American aborigines there were women who dressed and behaved as men, marrying other women and hunting along with the men. Though they were occasionally ridiculed, they were apparently left to live in peace by most tribes.

In Brazilian tribes some women abstained from all feminine occupations and imitated men in dress and manner. They wore their hair in masculine fashion, hunted with men, and went to war beside them. In some cases they resisted intercourse with men at the cost of their lives. Each of these Brazilian Amazons had a woman who lived with her as wife.

Various other native groups and ancient civilizations had transvestite women as part of their society; notably, Zanzibar and Bali. Hatsheput, the Egyptian pharaoh, dressed as a man part of her adult life and kept a harem of both men and women.

In more recent history, cases have been recorded in virtually every country and at every period of time. A sort of female Robin Hood of the 1600s, Mary Frith, known as Moll Cutpurse, fenced and forged her way through life. From early girlhood until death she dressed as a man and though her only known companion in life was a pet dog,

various authorities, notably Havelock Ellis, speak of her as homosexual.

Bram Stoker in his book, "Famous Imposters," New York, Sturgis and Walton, 1910, tells of a large number of famous female transvestites. He lists three women who passed as male soldiers, four who lived as sailors, and two notorious women pirates, Mary Reid and Ann Bonney. He gives a detailed life of Hannah Snell, an English soldier and sailor of the 1700s, and a long account of the very famous opera singer, Madeleine Maupin d'Aubigny, who was immortalized by Theophile Gautier in his "Mademoiselle de Maupin".

In England in the middle 1700s a woman named Mary East passed her entire adult life as James How. She and her lover lived together as Mr. and Mrs. How for 30 years and were respected members of their community. Charlotte Charke, English actress and authoress of the 1700s spent most of her life from age five on in men's clothes. Toward the end of her life she lived with another actress as Mr. and Mrs. Brown.

In "Coronet Magazine", September, 1957, an article entitled "Women Who Wanted to be Men" by Rosanne Smith, tells a number of brief histories of successful transvestites during the 1800s. Most of them were either soldiers or sailors during the Civil War. The authoress of this article was careful to skirt any implication of variance but the inference is obvious.

In the "American Mercury", April, 1957, an article appears on the life of Western mule driver, one-eyed Charlie Parkhurst. Some 53 years before women's suffrage Charlie Durkee Parkhurst voted and thus was undoubtedly the first woman to vote in the United States. In 1879 Charlie died and was discovered to be a woman.

On the other side of the world an English woman, Dr. James Miranda Barry, the first English-speaking woman doctor in the world, was making a different kind of history. Masquerading all her life as a man, she was a medical officer in the British army, 1813-1865. In 1858 she was made Inspector-General of hospitals and not until her

death in 1865 was her sex discovered.

These are but a few of the many brief accounts scattered throughout countless reference books. In recent years a certain relaxation of a strict moral code has allowed a few people to mention transvestism in women without severe censure; however, for the most part it is still a relatively ignored subject. Since 1900 the practice of total transvestism in women appears to be waning, probably because of the greater license allowed in ordinary feminine dress coupled with broader occupational opportunities for women. Probably no authority will ever conclusively determine the reason for sex disguise beyond those cases compelled by overt homosexuality.

HOMOSEXUAL LAW REFORM SOCIETY

The Homosexual Law Reform Society, a group in England working for passage of the Wolfenden Report, has made much progress in the past eight months of its existence.

In a report published in London, the group points out that before it came into being there "was a very real danger that the Wolfenden recommendations might have been quietly forgotten."

Since that time they have formed a Committee of more than 100 distinguished people; set up a full time office at a central address in London to propagate its campaign; circularized every member of Parliament more than once, and published a number of pamphlets.

The Society has also given advice to a number of people who have requested it, and has received inquiries from some 2,000 people from England and abroad.

Money is still needed. Checks should be made out to the Homosexual Law Reform Society and sent to the Rev. A. Hallidie Smith at 904, Chester Road, Erdington, Birmingham 24, England. It is only through donations that the Society can continue the vital work it is doing, work which will certainly benefit us in America.

mood miscellanea

MY HEART

My heart's a small, hushed velvet room,
Wherein a bird of wondrous breed
Beats frantically against the gloom,
Insistent that he must be freed
To soar on iridescent wing
High in the crystal evening air,
Triumphantly his song to sing
Of happiness too great to bear.

But strange, enchanted prisoner,
Forgive me if I hold you fast,
Too long I've been a wanderer -
Unknown to me a love so vast.
And so in silent wonder, I
Must closet you, lest you depart,
Uncertain in my Joy, and shy -
Afraid to risk an empty heart.

- Jean Ray

HOW COULD I KNOW

The melody was somber for so long,
That I remembered no other,
So when it changed,
How could I know at first,
It was my heart.

- J. Lorna Strayer

THE IRON MASK

From behind the iron mask
the voice cries
within....
searing, twisting,

thrusting forward to be heard.
Transmitting to the brain thoughts, desires,
regrets....
remember...forget
remember...forget

The brain attacks on the defense, alert
and yet....submitting by degrees
to this inward torture

"Retreat", cries the heart
"Rebel", cries the brain
....a swirling mixture of nothingness....
and then...nothing.

- Sherrin Sterner

THE DOOR OPENED

I opened the door and walked into the sunlight,
And fell in love...

I shut out the dreary night and walked among the flowers,
And felt warmed by the sun above...

Kissed each Rose -- as red as your lips --
Each petal -- soft as your skin.
Then I reached a second door.
You opened your heart and let me in.

- C.J. Taylor

The Lesbian in Contemporary Literature

BY LENNOX STRANG

FROM 1926 UNTIL 1950 THE MAJORITY OF BOOKS WHICH DEALT WITH LESBIANISM WERE EXCLUSIVELY LESBIAN. MOST OF THESE NOVELS WERE EITHER LOVE STORIES OR HALF-CLINICAL CASE STUDIES. IN THE PAST EIGHT YEARS A NUMBER OF BOOKS ON LESBIANISM HAVE BEEN BROADER IN SCOPE. THE LESBIAN IN CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE IS FREQUENTLY PRESENTED AS JUST ONE FACET OF THE MANY VARIATIONS OF HUMAN EXPERIENCE.

IN 1950 MOST OF THE BOOKS ON LESBIANISM RECEIVED GOOD CRITICAL NOTICES AND SOFT TITLES, SUCH AS "THE PASSIONATE EXILES" BY AURICE LEVAILLANT, "DANGEROUS ORDS AND OTHER STORIES" BY JOAN O'DONOVAN, "THE HEEL OF GARTH" BY HELGA SANDBURG, "MUSIC AND SPLENDOUR" BY KATE O'BRIEN, AND "HEROES AND ORATORS" BY ROBERT PHELPS RECEIVED EXCELLENT REVIEWS IN SUCH EMINENT LITERARY ORGANS AS "THE SATURDAY REVIEW" AND "THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW."

THE TOTAL PICTURE IN 1958 WAS ONE OF GREAT HOPE FOR THE FUTURE OF LESBIAN LITERATURE. THERE WERE 12 TITLES WHICH DEALT ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY WITH LESBIANISM. OF THERE, FOUR WERE PAPERBACK ORIGINALS AND EIGHT WERE HARDBOUND; SEVEN WERE SYMPATHETIC AND FIVE WERE CONDEMNING IN TONE. THERE WERE SEVEN OTHER TITLES WHICH HAD MINOR LESBIAN ROLES, ALL TREATED SYMPATHETICALLY. THE YEAR ALSO SAW THE REPRINTING OF 11 POPULAR LESBIAN TITLES FROM PAST YEARS.

BOOK REVIEWS

I AM A WOMAN BY ANN BANNON. FAWCETT PUBLICATIONS, 1959. GOLD MEDAL GIANT #D833

IN MARCH, 1957, ANN BANNON'S FIRST NOVEL "ODD GIRL OUT" WAS PUBLISHED. THE HEROINE OF THE BOOK, LAURA LANDON, DISCOVERS HER LESBIANISM, HAS AN AFFAIR WITH HER ROOMMATE AND IN THE END, REALIZING THAT LESBIANISM IS RIGHT FOR HER AND NOT FOR HER ROOMMATE, SHE SAYS: "I'LL LIVE MY LIFE AS HONESTLY AS I CAN."

"I AM A WOMAN" TELLS THE STORY OF LAURA'S FLIGHT TO NEW YORK CITY, HER TRANSFERENCE OF HER LOVE FOR BETH (HER FORMER ROOMMATE) TO MARCIE, WHO IS NORMAL, AND FINALLY HOW SHE MEETS AND FALLS IN LOVE WITH THE VERY HANDSOME, VERY GAY, BEEBO.

AS A SECONDARY THEME THERE IS LAURA'S FRIENDSHIP WITH JACK, A GAY BOY, AND HIS LOVER, TERRY. (THEIR AFFAIR IS HAPPY, ALSO.)

THE BOOK IS VERY REALISTIC, THE WRITING IS EXCELLENT FOR A PAPER-BACK, AND THE ENDING IS SO VERY HAPPY THAT IT SETS THE BOOK ALMOST IN A CLASS BY ITSELF. THE AUTHOR IS SYMPATHETIC THROUGHOUT, BUT SHE PULLS NO PUNCHES. SHE DEFINITELY REALIZES THE DRAWBACKS AS WELL AS THE ADVANTAGES.

DANGEROUS WORLDS AND OTHER STORIES BY JOAN O'DONOVAN. MORROW, 1958.

MISS O'DONOVAN, ALTHOUGH PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN IN AMERICA, IS CONSIDERED ONE OF ENGLAND'S MOST OUTSTANDING SHORT STORY WRITERS. HER COLLECTION "DANGEROUS WORLDS" IS HER FIRST PUBLICATION ON THIS SIDE OF THE OCEAN. MANY OF THE 20 STORIES IN THIS BOOK TOUCH ON LESBIANISM; SOME ARE OVERTLY LESBIAN, AND TWO ARE ON THE REACTIONS OF WOMEN TO MALE HOMOSEXUALITY.

"THE LADY SOLOIST" CONCERNS 13-YEAR OLD ALICE BYRNE WHO IMAGINES HERSELF A "LADY SAILOR", WALKS WITH A ROLL AND EXPECTORATES WHEN HER MOTHER IS NOT WATCHING. SHE DEVELOPS A VIOLENT CRUSH ON A CONTRALTO CHURCH SINGER AND IS CRUSHED WHEN SHE DISCOVERS HER FATHER IS PURSUING THE LADY SOLOIST.

"THE LADY-KILLER" TELLS OF NAIVE FREDA WHO FALLS IN LOVE WITH ROBIN, AN INTERIOR DECORATOR. ROBIN TELLS HER OF HIS SORROW OVER THE DEPARTED BERTIE AND FREDA FAILS TO UNDERSTAND.

"JOHNNIE" IS A 45 YEAR OLD WOMAN SOLDIER WHOSE LOVER IS UNFAITHFUL. JOHNNIE POURS HER HEART OUT TO 18-YEAR-OLD JANET. JANET FAILS TO UNDERSTAND HOW POOR DEAR JOHNNIE COULD BE SO JEALOUS OF BRENDA AND HER WOMEN.

"BAIT" FOR MURIEL JAMES IS THE PROPOSAL OF MARRIAGE BY AGING QUEEN TERRY WHOSE RECENT LOVER, THE SARDONIC BOBBIE, HAD DESERTED HIM.

"THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS" TELLS THE BRIEF STORY OF AN EIGHT-YEAR-OLD

GIRL'S FASCINATION FOR A "BAD WOMAN".

AS MUSIC AND SPLENDOUR BY KATE O'BRIEN. HARPER, 1958.

IN 1886 CLARE HALVEY AND ROSE LENNANE, AGED 16 AND 15 RESPECTIVELY, WERE SENT FROM THEIR HOMES IN IRELAND TO PARIS TO TRAIN FOR CAREERS IN OPERA. THEY WERE GIFTED AND LEARNED RAPIDLY AND SOON WERE SENT ON TO ROME FOR MORE INTENSIVE SCHOOLING.

ALTHOUGH VERY CLOSE IN AGE AND SHARING A COMMON HERITAGE, THEY WERE VERY DIFFERENT. ROSE GREW TO YOUNG WOMANHOOD VERY BLITHE AND CARE-FREE, HAD MANY LOVERS AND FINALLY SETTLED FOR AN INFERIOR AFTER WASTING MOST OF HER YOUNG LIFE. HER PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS WAS DAZZLING AND SHE WAS A FINE LYRIC SOPRANO.

CLARE WAS MORE COMPLEX, FAR LESS FLAMBUOYANT. SHE SANG PURE AND BEAUTIFUL LITURGICAL MUSIC AND THE MORE EXACTING OPERATIC ROLES, AS THE DUET "MIRO O NORMA" FROM THE LESBIAN TINGED OPERA "NORMA". CLARE FELL IN LOVE WITH A CASTILLIAN SPANISH GIRL, LUISA CARRIAGA, A TALENTED, SLIGHTLY OLDER MEZZO-SOPRANO.

MISS O'BRIEN WRITES ROMANTICALLY, HONESTLY AND WITHOUT APOLOGY OR EXPLANATION. SHE TREATS BOTH ROSE AND CLARE AND THEIR FAR DIFFERENT LOVE AFFAIRS WITH EQUAL COMPLETENESS, WARMTH AND INTIMATE COMPASSION. THE HEART-STOPPING BEAUTY AND DRAMA OF THE KALEIDOSCOPIC WORLD OF THE OPERA IN ITALY DURING THE 1880S WILL FASCINATE ALL MUSIC LOVERS, AND THE TENDER LESBIAN LOVE AFFAIR WILL INTRIGUE EVERYONE ELSE.

COMING IN THE MARCH ISSUE

A FULL REPORT ON ONE'S ANNUAL MIDWINTER INSTITUTE HELD IN LOS ANGELES JANUARY 30-FEBRUARY 1. THE THEME THIS YEAR WAS "MENTAL HEALTH AND HOMOSEXUALITY". FEATURED SPEAKERS INCLUDED DR. BLANCHE M. BAKER, SAN FRANCISCO PSYCHIATRIST; ERIC JULBER, LOS ANGELES ATTORNEY; VITA S. SOMMERS, LOS ANGELES PSYCHOLOGIST; TRENT E. BESSANT, CHIEF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST, METROPOLITAN STATE HOSPITAL, NORWALK, AND DR. MARIO PALMIERI, ENGINEER AND WRITER. WILLIAM BAKER, SAN FRANCISCO PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELLOR, PRESENTED THE PSYCHODRAMA, AN ILLUSTRATED STUDY IN MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS.

LESBIANA

72. EDGE OF TWILIGHT BY PAULA CHRISTIAN, FAWCETT, 1959 (CREST BOOK, 35 CENTS)

ANOTHER YOUTHFUL MODERN TREATMENT OF A WOMAN ADJUSTING TO THE DISCOVERY OF HER LESBIANISM. VAL, ATTRACTIVE AIRLINE HOSTESS, MEETS TONI, ANOTHER HOSTESS, WITH RESULTING MUTUAL ATTRACTION. TONI IS AWARE OF HER LEANINGS BUT VAL IS NOT. THE STORY TELLS OF VAL'S GRADUAL AND TOTAL ADJUSTMENT TO HER DISCOVERY AND ENDS IN VERY COMPLETE FULFILLMENT FOR BOTH WOMEN. QUITE WELL WRITTEN, FAST MOVING, HAPPY ENDING.

90. I AM A WOMAN BY ANN BANNON. FAWCETT PUBLICATIONS, 1959. GOLD MEDAL GIANT #D833. (SEE PAGE 16)

91. DANGEROUS WORLDS AND OTHER STORIES BY JOAN O'DONOVAN. MORROW, 1958. (SEE PAGE 17)

92. AS MUSIC AND SPLENDOUR BY KATE O'BRIEN. HARPER, 1958. (SEE PAGE 18)

93. STAGE FOR FOOLS BY MICHAEL NORDAY. VIXEN PRESS (ASSOCIATED BOOKSELLER), 1955, 1958.

ZANE HUNTER, PARTIALLY ALCOHOLIC BROADWAY ACTRESS, PLAYS THE LEAD IN A COLLEGE PRODUCED PLAY. SHE MANAGES TO MAKE EVERYONE AROUND HER LOATHE HER. AMONG HER MANY ENEMIES IS ANITA, THE YOUNG LESBIAN SHE RUINS AND THEN HOLDS IN VIRTUAL CAPTIVITY. ZANE IS MURDERED AND EVERYONE LOOKS GUILTY. THE WRITING IS UNUSUALLY GOOD FOR ONE OF THESE OFF-BEAT PRESS PUBLICATIONS. FOR A CHANGE THE LESBIAN IS NOT PRESENTED AS A MONSTER.

94. PRISON GIRL BY WENZELL BROWN. PYRAMID BOOKS, 1958.

ANOTHER SEMI-LURID EXPOSE OF PRISON LIFE FOR WOMEN IN TROUBLE. AS IS USUAL IN THESE POORLY-WRITTEN TOMES THE LESBIANS ARE PRESENTED IN A PRETTY UNDESIRABLE LIGHT.

New York DOB Sponsoring Talk by Helen King

"Homosexuality in Handwriting and Doodles" will be the subject discussed by Helen King on Sunday, March 1, in a lecture jointly sponsored by the New York chapters of the Daughters of Bilitis and the Mattachine Society. The lecture will be accompanied by illustrations drawn from the handwriting of noted persons and samples provided by the audience.

Miss King is editor of the publications of the American Graphological Society and is the author of "Your Doodles" and other books. She was a member of the Fannie Hurst TV panel show which was censored.

At a meeting of the American Graphological Society last December, Miss King spoke on "Homosexuality in Handwriting". It was the first time that this organization had had a full meeting dealing with homosexuality, and Miss King's paper was very well received. She emphasized primarily the concept of bisexuality with either male or female characteristics dominating. Samples of handwriting supplied by members of the Daughters of Bilitis and the Mattachine Society were used for illustration.

At the close of the meeting, packets of information containing copies of THE LADDER and the Mattachine Review were distributed to the audience. Much interest was expressed by those present and many desired additional information on the subject.

The implications of handwriting revealed by this eminent authority are of a great deal of interest and it is hoped that her findings will provoke much stimulating discussion at the forthcoming meeting.

The meeting will begin at 2:00 p.m. in Steinway Hall, 113 West 57th St., New York City. Admission is free, so come and bring your doodles!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 - DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS BUSINESS MEETING AT 8 P.M., 2174 CALIFORNIA ST., SAN FRANCISCO, BASEMENT APARTMENT.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 80—GAB 'N JAVA, AN INFORMAL DISCUSSION SESSION FEATURING TOPICS PERTINENT TO THE EVERYDAY LIFE OF THE LESBIAN. AT 8 P.M., 2217 FILLMORE ST., SAN FRANCISCO.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14 - ANNUAL VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY FOR MEMBERS AND GUESTS. RESERVATIONS TO ONE OF THE OFFICERS OR TO THE DOB OFFICE BY THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, PLEASE!

SATURDAY, MARCH 7 - LADDER WORK PARTY COMPOUNDED OF EQUAL PARTS OF WORK AND SOCIALIZING. IT IS THE ONLY WAY BOB CAN GET THE LADDER ASSEMBLED AND MAILED, SO COME ON DOWN AND HELP OUT FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS OR SO. FROM NOON ON AT THE DOB OFFICES.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15 - THE TRADITIONAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY BRUNCH OF THE DOB. RESERVE THIS DATE AND BRING ALL YOUR FRIENDS, MALE AND FEMALE. THIS IS A GOOD WAY TO INTRODUCE PEOPLE TO THE DOB. TIME AND PLACE WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE MARCH ISSUE OF THE LADDER. PLAN NOW TO ATTEND.

NOTICE TO NEW YORKERS: NEXT BUSINESS MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CHAPTER, DOB, WILL BE HELD SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, AT 2 P.M. AT 1133 BROADWAY, ROOM 304. ALL WOMEN IN THE NEW YORK AREA ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

****

DOB NOW HAS AN ACTIVE CHAPTER IN NEW YORK AND GROUPS FORMING IN RHODE ISLAND AND LOS ANGLES. ADDRESS IN NEW YORK IS DOB, 1133 BROADWAY. IN RHODE ISLAND WRITE TO P. O. BOX 14, WEST WARWICK. THOSE IN THE LOS ANGELES AREA WHO ARE INTERESTED SHOULD WRITE TO DOB HEADQUARTERS IN SAN FRANCISCO.

READERS RESPOND

"OFTIMES I HAVE BEEN UNKINDLY CRITICAL OF THE LITERARY MERITS OF THE LADDER. I HAVE SNEERED AT ITS PUERILE FANTASIES IN FICTION, ITS INNOCUOUS COMMENTARY GENERALLY, AND PARTICULARLY THAT PERIODIC LETTER WHICH READS:

'DEAR EDITOR,
I HAVE JUST DISCOVERED YOUR LITTLE
MAGAZINE. I THINK IT'S WONDERFUL
THAT THERE IS SUCH A MAGAZINE
BEING PUBLISHED JUST FOR US.'

"I HAVE SPENT MUCH TIME TRYING TO CONVINCE FRIENDS THAT THESE LETTERS ARE GENUINE AS IT IS MY BELIEF THAT WERE THEY CREATED BY YOUR EDITORS PURELY TO FILL SPACE, CONSIDERABLY MORE INGENUITY AND VARIATION WOULD BE SHOWN. HAVING THUS COMMITTED MYSELF TO THE DEFENSE OF THE LADDER, IT WAS BUT A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE I FOUND MYSELF SEARCHING THE PUBLICATIONS OF OUR SISTERS OVERSEAS. AS DR. ELLIS HAS OBSERVED, 'WE' ARE VERY UNCREATIVE; BUT I COMPENSATE WITH A RARE TALENT FOR PLAGIARISM. HOWEVER, I MUST REGRETFULLY REPORT I FOUND NOTHING IN THOSE FOREIGN PAGES WHICH REQUIRED 'TRANSLATION'. IN FACT THERE WAS ONE LETTER WITH A QUITE FAMILIAR RING. TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL GERMAN IT READ:

'DEAR EDITOR,

I HAVE JUST DISCOVERED YOUR LITTLE
MAGAZINE. I THINK IT'S WONDERFUL
THAT THERE IS SUCH A MAGAZINE
BEING PUBLISHED JUST FOR US.'"

M.E. NEW YORK, N. Y.

* * * * *

"DURING A CONVERSATION MY ROOMMATE HAD WITH A NEGRO WOMAN FRIEND THE OTHER DAY, AN IDEA WAS PUT FORTH WHICH MIGHT BE APPLICABLE TO THE LESBIAN'S PROBLEM OF SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE. THIS WOMAN WAS AND IS VERY ANGRY OVER THE USE OF THE TERMS INTEGRATION AND SEGREGATION. SHE FEELS THAT NEGROES FOR THE MOST PART REALLY WANT ABSOLUTELY EQUAL

RIGHTS WITHIN THEIR OWN INDIVIDUAL GROUPS AND THAT INTEGRATION IS REALLY JUST A POSSIBLE MEANS OF OBTAINING THESE RIGHTS.

"WE FEEL THAT PROBABLY THIS IS THE REAL DESIRE OF MOST LESBIANS AND MOST MALE HOMOSEXUALS AS WELL. REALISTICALLY IT WILL TAKE MANY HUNDREDS OF YEARS OF ADJUSTMENT IN THE MINDS OF THE HETEROSEXUAL MAJORITY FOR REAL AND ABSOLUTE INTEGRATION TO TAKE PLACE BETWEEN HOMOSEXUAL AND HETEROSEXUAL PEOPLE. THE FIRST STEP SHOULD BE AN EFFORT TO OBTAIN THE SOCIAL AND LEGAL PRIVILEGES THAT ARE AUTOMATICALLY GIVEN TO HETEROSEXUALS. SUCH SIMPLE AND PURPORTEDLY INALIENABLE RIGHTS SUCH AS: JOINT INCOME TAX RETURNS FOR LESBIAN COUPLES, MARRIAGE CEREMONIES AND THE LEGAL RECOGNITION OF THESE CEREMONIES, AND EQUAL INSURANCE RATES FOR HOMOSEXUAL COUPLES, ETC.

"ON THE OTHER HAND PROBABLY THERE WILL ALWAYS BE CERTAIN PEOPLE WHO WILL REFUSE TO ACCEPT HOMOSEXUALITY AS RIGOROUSLY AS PEOPLE REFUSE INTEGRATION. THERE IS NO REASON TO ARGUE THE MORAL OR LEGAL ISSUES OF ANY FORM OF SEGREGATION. RIGHT OR WRONG WE HAVE IT AND PLENTY OF IT IS WITHIN OUR OWN CLOSE KNIT GROUPS OF HOMOSEXUALS. LET EACH GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS SEEK THEIR OWN FRIENDS BUT WE MUST OBTAIN SOCIAL PRIVILEGE EVEN IF WE MUST KEEP SOCIAL CENSURE. IT IS NOT NECESSARY THAT ALL MEN LOVE ME, BUT THEY MUST NOT TAKE FROM ME WHAT IS MY JUST DUE. THIS IS A CALL FOR ALL OF US, WE MUST WORK TO GAIN OUR BASIC FREEDOMS. THERE SHOULD COME A DAY WHEN SUCH A SHORT AND HEART WARMING STORY AS 'A CHRISTMAS STORY' IN THE DEC. LADDER WILL BE UNNECESSARY BECAUSE NO SUCH SITUATION EXISTS. ON THAT DAY WE MAY NOT BE ACCEPTED BUT WE WON'T BE DOWNTRODDEN."

B. G. KANSAS CITY, KAN.

* * * * *

"MAY I COMPLIMENT PHYLLIS LYON AND HER STAFF ON THE LADDER IN GENERAL? IT'S ALWAYS BRIGHT AND INTERESTING TO ME AND BECOMES INCREASINGLY SO WITH EACH NEW ISSUE. I'VE NO REAL CRITICISM TO

SPECIALIZING IN ANIMAL PHOTOGRAPHY
Wallet Size - 55¢ each
8 x 10 - $1.75 *** 5 x 7 - $1.40
Jeff Wiener
Photographer
Plaza 6-1141
San Francisco

OFFER. THE QUALITY OF THE FICTION FLUCTUATES, AS YOU KNOW. VERY FEW OF THE CONTRIBUTORS, I IMAGINE, ARE SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN WRITING, BUT IT IS ENCOURAGING THAT THEY TRY.

"MAY I ALSO COMPLIMENT HELEN SANDERS AND KRIS DODDS ON THEIR RESPECTIVE COVERS?"

K.D., HUDSON, N. H.

* * * * *

"I CAME ACROSS THE LADDER BY ACCIDENT, AND HAVE BEEN THOROUGHLY FASCINATED WITH THE THREE ISSUES I'VE SEEN. I'M CONSIDERING DOING A LESBIAN NOVEL, AND THIS CERTAINLY SEEMS TO BE ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND WHAT I INTEND TO WRITE ABOUT.

"THE LETTERS, ESSAYS, POETRY AND STORIES WHICH YOU PUBLISH SEEM TO AFFORD A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF LESBIANS THAN THE MANY BOOKS THAT HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED.

"THE AVERAGE PERSON'S CONDEMNATION OF LESBIANISM IS, I BELIEVE, BASED LARGELY ON HAVING NO UNDERSTANDING OF IT, AND IS IN FACT A FEAR REACTION. ONCE THIS IS DEFEATED, THE LESBIAN'S POSITION IN SOCIETY WILL BE MORE COMFORTABLE FOR BOTH ELEMENTS. THE EXCELLENT SENSE OF SOCIAL AWARENESS AND DISCREETNESS OF LESBIANS GIVES THEM MUCH TO BE PROUD OF. IT GIVES THEM A FAR BETTER CHANCE OF BEING SOCIALLY ACCEPTED AND RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR VIRTUES THAN THE MALE DEVIATE.

"PLEASE SEND ME A COPY OF THE DOB SOCIOLOGICAL QUESTIONNAIRE. ALSO A COPY OF YOUR RATES AND DEADLINES FOR ADVERTISING IN THE LADDER."

R.L.S., LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

* * * * *

"I HAVE JUST FINISHED READING THE STORY "SPRING FIRE" BY VIN PACKER AND I WAS TRULY DISAPPOINTED IN IT.

"IT SEEMS THAT NEARLY EVERY BOOK THAT I HAVE READ ON THE LESBIAN THEME HAS AN UNHAPPY OR TRAGIC ENDING. IT WOULD BE A PLEASURE TO

READ A STORY THAT HAS A HAPPY ENDING. I AM CERTAIN THAT THERE ARE MANY FRIENDS WHO LOVE ONE ANOTHER AND LIVE TOGETHER, WHO EXPERIENCE TRUE HAPPINESS--WHO ARE NOT FRUSTRATED OR WHO FEEL SO MALADJUSTED AS MANY WRITERS OF LESBIAN NOVELS WOULD MAKE THE READER BELIEVE.

"I HAVE READ IN THE LADDER AT VARIOUS TIMES YOUR STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT YOU ARE NOT PERMITTED TO GIVE NAMES AND ADDRESSES TO ANY WRITER WHO DESIRES TO CORRESPOND WITH A PEN PAL OR MAKE FRIENDS WITH SOMEONE ELSE. THIS SEEMS UNFAIR, FOR I AM CERTAIN THAT THERE ARE MANY SINGLE WOMEN WHO ARE LONELY, WHO ARE SEEKING FRIENDSHIP AND LOVE--NOT WITH ONE OF THE OPPOSITE SEX, BUT FROM ONE OF THE FAIR SEX. HOW MAY ONE GO ABOUT THE JOB OF MEETING OTHER WOMEN WHO ARE INTERESTED IN MAKING FRIENDSHIPS?

"IS THERE NO MEANS OF LEGALLY ARRANGING A WAY TO INTRODUCE WOMEN TO OTHER WOMEN WHO ARE INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING FRIENDSHIPS?

"I SHOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ASSISTANCE IN SECURING SOME NOVELS ON THE LESBIAN THEME WHICH HAVE HAPPY ENDINGS. I ALSO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN READING MORE ACCOUNTS OR STORIES OF FRIENDS WHO HAVE ACTUALLY MADE A HAPPY HOME TOGETHER.

"I AM ANXIOUS TO HEAR FROM THE SURVEY YOU MADE OF LESBIANS DURING THE SUMMER. WILL THIS BE PUBLISHED IN THE LADDER SOON?"

E.W., INDIANA

IT IS STILL PLANNED TO PUBLISH THE RESULTS OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE IN THE LADDER, BUT WHEN THIS WILL BE DONE IS STILL INDEFINITE. WE REGRET THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DIVULGE NAMES OF OUR SUBSCRIBERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXCHANGING CORRESPONDENCE OR ARRANGING MEETINGS. CHAPTERS OF THE DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS ARE BEING FORMED IN MANY CITIES, NAMELY RHODE ISLAND, NEW YORK AND LOS ANGELES, AND IT IS OUR SINCERE WISH THAT MORE GROUPS WILL BE FORMED OVER THE NATION, THEREBY GIVING OPPORTUNITY TO

DO YOU LIKE PERFUME?

free samples from

DOUG YORK

P. O. Box 605, Springfield, Ill.

for your own use, to give to friends, or even to sell to discriminating perfume users? Please list the names of your favorite fragrances, tell us how you use them and request

ALL THOSE WHO WISH TO MEET WOMEN WITH SIMILAR INTERESTS A CHANCE TO DO SO. - ED.

* * * * *

"I LIKE THE LADDER'S POLICY OF PRINTING NEWS AND VIEWS ABOUT SEXUAL DEVIATION WHETHER OR NOT THEY REPRESENT THE OPINIONS OF THE ORGANIZATION. IN SOME CASES, OF COURSE, THESE ITEMS CRY OUT FOR REBUTTAL. ONE ITEM OF THIS SORT IN THE JANUARY ISSUE IS DR. RALPH BANAY'S WARNING THAT HOMOSEXUALITY OFTEN LEADS TO 'MORE VIOLENT CRIME', INCLUDING HOMICIDE, AND THAT THERAPY SHOULD BE MADE COMPULSORY.

"DR. BANAY'S CLAIM ABOUT VIOLENT CRIME CAN MEAN MUCH OR LITTLE - WHAT DOES HE MEAN BY 'OFTEN'? BUT IT CANNOT BE VERY IMPRESSIVE UNLESS HE CAN SHOW THAT MORE HOMOSEXUALS THAN HETEROSEXUALS ARE INVOLVED IN VIOLENT CRIME; OR THAT MORE HOMOSEXUALS ARE INVOLVED IN VIOLENT CRIME THAN ARE NOT SO INVOLVED. THE FIRST SEEMS HIGHLY UNLIKELY. THE SECOND CANNOT READILY BE DETERMINED SINCE THE HOMOSEXUAL WHO COMMITS CRIMES OF VIOLENCE IS SO VISIBLE, WHILE THE OTHERS WHO DO NOT ARE ALMOST COMPLETELY INVISIBLE.

"IT IS CERTAINLY POSSIBLE, OF COURSE, THAT THE NUMBER OF VIOLENT CRIMES COMMITTED BY HOMOSEXUALS, IN PROPORTION TO THE TOTAL HOMOSEXUAL POPULATION, MAY BE HIGHER THAN THE CORRESPONDING RATE FOR THE HETEROSEXUAL. THE QUESTION MUST THEN BE RAISED - IS THIS (IF TRUE) DUE TO SOMETHING INTRINSIC IN HOMOSEXUALITY, OR TO THE HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH HE LIVES?

"IF DR. BANAY HAD CONFINED HIS RECOMMENDATION FOR COMPULSORY THERAPY TO THOSE WHO DO COMMIT VIOLENT CRIMES, THERE MIGHT BE A GOOD CASE FOR IT. AS IT IS, THIS SUGGESTION SMACKS TOO MUCH FOR COMFORT OF GEORGE ORWELL'S '1984', AND CANNOT BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY. NO MATTER HOW MUCH GOOD THERAPY MIGHT DO FOR THE SOCIALLY HARMLESS (OR FOR THE SOCIALLY USEFUL) HOMOSEXUAL, THE DECISION AS TO 'TREATMENT' MUST BE LEFT STRICTLY TO HIM OR TO HER. MOREOVER, DR. BANAY'S SUGGESTION IS HIGHLY INCONSISTENT WITH HIS OWN POSITION THAT PSYCHOTHERAPY CAN BE EFFECTIVE ONLY WHERE THE HOMOSEXUAL IN QUESTION IS STRONGLY MOTIVATED TO 'OVERCOME THE PROBLEM'."

F.C., SAN MATEO, CALIF.

MEMBERSHIP in the DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS may be either a voting or associate membership.

VOTING MEMBERSHIP- $5.00 initiation fee and $1.00 monthly dues. THE LADDER is sent FREE.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP- $2.50 initiation fee and $.50 monthly Dues. THE LADDER is sent FREE. Since most people having this membership are not residents in the area where meetings are held, copies of business meeting minutes are also mailed to these members.

THE LADDER: A monthly publication by the DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS, INC., mailed by first class mail in a plain sealed envelope for $2.50 per year.

CONTRIBUTIONS are gratefully accepted from anyone who wishes to assist us in our work. We are a non-profit corporation working entirely on donated labor. Our fees are not of such amounts as to allow for much expansion of the publication. While men may not become members of the DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS, INC., many have expressed interest in our efforts and our publication and have made contributions to further our work. Of course, anyone over 21 years of age may subscribe to THE LADDER.

TO BECOME A MEMBER: Write to the DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS, INC., Room 405-06, 165 O'Farrell Street, San Francisco 2, Calif., requesting an application form.

TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE LADDER: Send $2.50 for one year or $5.00 for two years, enclosing coupon below or facsimile.

DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS, INC.
165 O'Farrell Street -- Room 405
San Francisco 2, California

Please send THE LADDER for ____ year(s) by first class mail sealed to the address below. I enclose $ ____ at the rate of $2.50 for each year ordered.

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY _____ ZONE___ STATE_____

*I am over 21 years of age (Signed)*_____

—KERRY